

John Huber House
1424 2nd Avenue
Fourth Ward Neighborhood
Altoona
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5828

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN HUBER HOUSE

HABS No. PA-5828

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Location: 1424 2nd Avenue

Date of Erection: 1893

Description: A two-and-a-half-story house with side-gable roof hides behind a two-story, flat-roofed storefront addition. The storefront has a plain cornice and recessed door. Except for the use of vertical siding to enclose the first-floor display windows, the entire structure is covered with novelty siding.

History: John Huber, a machinist, purchased this lot from John Sponer and his wife, Magdalena, in 1889. The lot remained vacant until 1893 when the house was built. Huber is not listed at this address in the city directories until 1901. He was assessed \$900 that year for one half-lot and a house. The front addition was in place and being used as a store by 1909.

Huber lived at this address into the 1920s. Agnes and Adam Filer, Huber's heirs, purchased the property from the estate in 1946 for \$3,800. They operated Filer's Market in the front addition. Agnes, widowed by 1965, continued to live in the house until 1970.

Umberto Zangrilli, a roofer, and his wife, Mary, purchased the property for \$7,000 in 1971 from the Filer estate. The structure was converted back to a dwelling after 1968.

Sources: Maps: 1882, 1888, 1894, 1968. City directories. Tax assessment records. Deed books: 49/276, 74/473, 564/559, 924/607.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), Randy Cooley, director. Overviews of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and the fourth ward neighborhood (HABS No. PA-5786) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods. The photo of the John Huber House also documents the James and Mary Scherdon House, HABS No. PA-5829.

This report was prepared by Nancy Spiegel in the summer of 1989 under the supervision of HABS senior historian Alison K. Hoagland and Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian. Spiegel's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.